REMARKS

Applicant replies to the Final Office Action mailed on April 2, 2007 within two months. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests an Advisory Action, if necessary. Claims 1-11 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejects claims 1-11. Support for the amendments may be found in the originally-filed specification, claims, and figures. No new matter has been introduced by these amendments. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

The Examiner rejects claims 1-6 and 8-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Coleman, U.S. Patent 5,708,828 ("Coleman"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

In response to Applicant's previously filed arguments contending that Coleman teaches the use of more than a single translation of data, the Examiner asserts that, "Applicant's have not claimed the single translation from an output format, such that only the output format is natively useable by particular software where the input format cannot be used" (page 4, "Examiners Response"). Applicant respectfully disagrees, however, to expedite prosecution, Applicant amends independent claim 1 to more clearly recite the step of converting data from a first format to a format that is usable by a second source. Support for the amendment may be found, for example, in paragraphs 12 and 13 of the originally filed specification, which recites in part, "data is converted by Interface File Builder 210 to a format usable by company" (paragraph 12).

Moreover, one of ordinary skill in art would appreciate that because the data is being converted to a format usable by a second source, the data at the first source was initially unusable prior to the conversion. This is inherent throughout the teachings of the originally filed specification, which seeks to solve the problem of converting data between disparate data sources in order for data from foreign systems to be usable by native systems.

The Examiner next asserts that even if Applicant's claimed a single translation from an unusable format to a useable format, Coleman, "clearly describes this as the prior art system of Figure 1" (page 4, paragraph 1). Applicant respectfully disagrees.

It is important to note that Coleman describes Figure 1 as "the data conversion system and method of the present invention"; therefore, Figure 1 itself is not directed to a prior art system that existed prior to Coleman, as the Examiner contends. As such, Figure 1 provides a very high-level view describing the Coleman interactions between a data source (mainframe computer), a computer system executing the data conversion system and method, and a data

recipient for receiving the converted data. Notably, it is the computer system executing the data conversion system and method that performs the multi-stepped conversion process, as disclosed by Coleman. A closer analysis of Coleman's multi-stepped conversion process will be provided herein.

The Examiner furthermore asserts that Coleman "discloses a single translation from the input format to the pre-defined generic data format as shown by figure 2b" (page 4, paragraph 2). Applicant agrees that Coleman discloses a single translation step to convert source data of a first format to data of a generic format. However, the generic format as described by Coleman is not useable by a data recipient. Thus, Coleman discloses a second translation step to convert the generic data format to a format that is usable by the data recipient. As noted above in reference to amended claim 1, Coleman does not disclose a single translation step to convert data from a first unusable format to a second usable format. In light of the amendment and aforementioned arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the differentiating factors between the presently claimed invention and the Coleman reference.

Coleman discloses a data translation process, which begins with creating what is termed an "environment," and extends to rendering and storing translated data. The environment is disclosed as being a combination of definitions and rules that are used to translate the data from the first format to a second generic format; and from the second generic format to a third format. According to Coleman, an environment can be created based on the specific data translation needs. For example, if a user needs to move data from a source Microsoft SQL Server database to a destination UNIX data file, the user may interface with the Coleman system to define the source and the destination. On the source side, this may require the user to create a pointer to the database, define which fields in the database need to be converted, and specify the data type for each field. On the destination side, the user may create a pointer to where the data file exists, specify how the data is to be formatted, and define the data type. When the definitions have been created and saved to memory, Coleman refers to the definitions as a single data-mapping object.

Coleman further discloses an "intermediate output environment" (not to be mistaken with the "environment" described above) as follows:

> "Intermediate output environments are used for a variety of reasons including, first, to simplify the migration process itself by separating the process into smaller, more workable parts; second, to move a single store of imported data to multiple data base output files or even multiple different data base platforms; and

third, to parse records into different output files for loading into separate databases..." (column 3, lines 46-53).

Thus, the intermediate output environment is optionally used to pre-process data from a first data environment to simplify complex migration tasks. In other words, implementation of an intermediate output environment is not related to, nor does it negate the need for multiple translation steps. See, for example, Fig. 3 that discloses at step 201 receiving definition of any desired intermediate formats. Much later in the process (*i.e.,* step 214), a migration takes place, wherein there is a conversion of data from a first input data environment to data having a pre-defined generic data type. Finally, in step 216, there is an execution of associations to convert data in the pre-defined generic data type to produce "output data" in accordance with a second data format.

As further evidence of the separation between the "intermediate output environment" and the "pre-defined generic data type; Coleman discloses the following:

"Intermediate output environments behave identically to normal output environments, and the process used to declare or create an intermediate output environment is identical to the process used to create input or output environments described above" (column 3, lines 53-57).

Thus, it is clear that the intermediate output environment, as disclosed by Coleman, can be most closely compared to the output environment, and that it is processed in the same manner as a normal input environment. That is, an intermediate output environment is created by converting data from an input data environment to a pre-defined generic data type (first translation), and is then converted from the pre-defined generic data type to a format suitable for the output data environment (second conversion). As such, Coleman does not disclose or suggest at least, "translating, via said host computer, using only a single translation of said <u>unusable</u> data from said first source to a format usable by a second source according to said definitions contained in said interface file, wherein said unusable data from said first source is usable by said second source after said translating step," as recited by independent claim 1.

Claims 2-6 and 8-11 variously depend from independent claim 1. As such, dependent claims 2-6 and 8-11 are differentiated from the cited reference for at least the reasons set forth above, as well as in view of their own respective features.

The Examiner rejects claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coleman in view of Free On-Line Dictionary of Computing definition of the term "wizard" ("Foldoc"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.
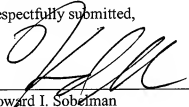
Neither Coleman, Foldoc, nor any combination thereof, disclose or suggest at least, "translating, via said host computer, using only a single translation of said <u>unusable</u> data from said first source to a format usable by a second source according to said definitions contained in said interface file, wherein said unusable data from said first source is usable by said second source after said translating step," as recited by independent claim 1 from which claim 7 depends. Thus, claim 7 is differentiated from the cited references for at least the same reasons as set forth above, as well as in view of its own respective features.

In view of the above remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims properly set forth that which Applicant regards as his invention and are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's convenience, if that would help further prosecution of the subject application. Attorney for Applicant authorizes and respectfully requests that any fees due be charged to Deposit Account No. 19-2814.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 29, 2007   By: _____

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